



PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 4724.0089

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Katsuhiko SATO et al.)
)
Serial No.: 09/367,060)
)
Filed: August 6, 1999)
)
For: LASER EMITTING HEAD, LASER-)
BEAM TRANSMISSION APPARATUS,)
METHOD OF ADJUSTING LASER-)
BEAM TRANSMISSION APPARATUS,)
AND INCORE-STRUCTURE)
PREVENTIVE-MAINTENANCE/)
REPAIR APPARATUS)

Group Art Unit: 2733

Examiner:

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FEB 25 2000
2700 MAIL ROOM

RECEIVED
FEB 28 2000
TECH. COMM. DIV.

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

The documents listed on the enclosed form PTO-1449 are the documents listed on the International Search Report for International Application No. PCT/JP98/05569 from which the present application claims priority. Form PCT/DO/EO/903 dated November 4, 1999, indicates that the Office has received a copy of the International Search Report and copies of the references cited therein. Pursuant to Manual of Patent Examining Procedure Section 609, the Examiner should consider the documents in the International Search Report when the Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicates that the Report and copies of the cited

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documents are present in the national stage file. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner consider the documents listed in the International Search Report and indicate his consideration thereof on the enclosed Form PTO-1449.

Copies of the International Search Report and Form PCT/DO/EO/903 are enclosed. However, since Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicates copies of the cited documents are present in the national stage file, copies are not being submitted with this filing.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

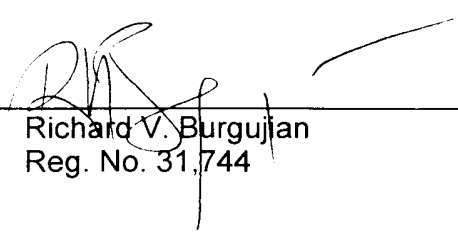
Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Date: February 24, 2000

By: 
Richard V. Burgujian
Reg. No. 31,744